(b) whether they have been denied entry into Kashmir; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Use of National and State Emblems

3744. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950 prohibits the use of the National Emblem by former Members of Parliament and State Emblem by former Members of the State legislatures;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the violation of the Act by a large number of former Members of Parliament and former Members of the State Legislatures;

(c) if so, whether any action has been initiated against such violators; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Translation]

Women Voluntary Organisations

3745. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number and details of the women voluntary organisations in Uttar Pradesh receiving aid from the Central Funds;

(b) the schemes formulated by these women voluntary organisations for the social upliftment of Scheduled Caste Women; and

(c) the financial assistance provided during the last year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Minimum Statutory Price of Sugarcane

3746. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has turned down the proposal of the Prime Minister to raise the Minimum Statutory Price of sugarcane all over the country from Rs. 45.90 per quintal to Rs. 100 per quintal;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have also taken a decision not to raise the levy price of sugar at present; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government of India have decided to fix the retail issue price of sugar to be distributed through Public Distribution System at Rs. 10.50 per kg. w.e.f. 10.2.1997 for reducing the element of subsidy in the distribution of sugar through Public Distribution System.

Import of Edible Oils under Open General Licence

3747. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of edible oils allowed to be imported under the Open General Licence during 1996-97; and

(b) the concessions given for the import of edible oils during this period?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) At present import of all edible oils except Coconut Oil, Palm Kernel Oil, RBD Palm Oil and RBD Palm Stearin is allowed under Open General Licence (OGL). No quantitative ceiling has been prescribed for import of edible oils under OGL.

(b) The duty on import of edible oil under OGL was reduced from 30% to 22% in July, 1996 under the General Budget for 1996-97.

Foreign Investment

3748. DR. A.K. PATEL :
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects involving direct foreign investment approved and set up by the Government in the agriculture sector since 1991;